Washington, DC - Rep. Linda Sánchez (D-CA), issued the following statement in response to the California Supreme Court's decision to uphold Proposition 8, the ballot initiative narrowly approved by voters last November that amended the California constitution to eliminate the right of same-sex couples to marry.

"I strongly opposed Proposition 8 and am disappointed that the Court determined it to be valid," said Rep. Linda Sánchez. "However, I applaud the Court's conclusion that Prop 8 will not abrogate equal protection or due process rights guaranteed to all citizens by the California Constitution and cannot tear families apart by nullifying same-sex marriages that already exist."